

APPLICATION SERIAL NO. 10/649,344

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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on page 15, line 8, beginning with "Fig. 3A shows an embodiment..." with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 3A shows an embodiment of an attachable hinge member 108. The hinge member 108 includes a mounting surface 302 with mounting holes 305. The mounting holes 305 align with holes on the support member ~~[[102]]~~ 104 (not shown). The mounting holes 305 are adapted to receive fasteners, such as bolts, screws, rivets, locking pins, etc. The hinge member 108 includes a hinge channel 306 for receiving the extension 107 of a bridging member 106 therethrough. The hinge channel 306 is disposed through a portion of the mounting surface 302 and includes flared ends 308 that allow a generally curved extension 107 to freely rotate through 180 degrees within the hinge channel 306.

Please replace the paragraph on page 16, line 22, beginning with "The portions 310, 312, 314 of the hinge member 108..." with the following amended paragraph:

The portions 310, 312, 314 of the hinge member 108 can offer changing resistance to rotation of the extension by various means. In the example of Fig. 3C, the portions 310, 312, and 314 are formed by fillets or small grooves that form the hinge channel 308. It is appreciated that forming a fillet radius different than the inner bend radius of the extension 107 will cause the fillets to ride or rub (frictionally interfere) at contact points against portions of the extension 107. Also, the portions 310, 312, 314 of the hinge member 108 are arrayed generally radially about a rounded portion 318 of the hinge channel 306. The rounded portion 318 has a substantially constant semicircular profile throughout the hinge channel 306 in order to effectively restrain the side members 102 during deployment of the truss member 100. The portions 310, 312, 314 of the hinge member 108 may have varying shapes and be ~~located~~ located at varying radial distances from the rounded portion 318 in order to increase or decrease interference with the extension 107. For example, as shown in Fig. 3C, the intermediate portions 314 are located radially closer to the rounded portion 318 than the other

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portions 310, 312 and are somewhat flattened, thereby giving the flared end 308 a peaked appearance. In this way, the intermediate portion 314 causes an increase in friction and/or elastic deformation of the extension 107, thereby resisting rotation of the extension 107.